SUNDAY, MAY 8, 1881.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending May 7, 1881, was:

Total for the week

Garfield and the Star Contractors.

When last year's political campaign was at fever heat Gen. GARFIELD wrote the following letter to HUBBELL, Chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee at Wash-" Mayron, Ohio, Aug. 23, 1880.

"Hon. J. A. Hussett, Washington, D. C.
"My Dean Hussett: Yours of the 19th Inst received and contents noted. Please say to Busor that I hope he will give us all the assistance possible. I think he can help effectually. Please tell me how the department penerally are doing. As ever, yours, J. A. Gasristo."

The principal duty of the HUBBELL committee was to levy assessments on officeholders and other Government dependents, and to place the proceeds where they would do the most good. The above letter shows that Gen. GARFIELD was watching this disreputable business very closely. He wanted the "departments" generally to understand that he had an eye on them, and that delinquents would be made to suffer.

BRADY wanted some guarantee from GAR-FIELD that the Star route contractors would be protected under him as they had been under HAYES. HUBBELL asked BRADY to assess them for Indiana and Ohio, where the decisive battle was raging. BRADY refused to do this without a written request from GARFIELD. HUBBELL wrote to GAR-FIELD explaining the situation, and after thowing his consciousness of the ticklish tature of the operation by taking several lays for grave consideration, and supplementing that by a conference with Dorsey. the candidate responded as above: "Please my to BRADY that I hope he will give us all the assistance possible. I think he can help affectually." Having seen the extent of the Star Ring, and consequently of BRADY's resources, developed by the investigation in the House, of which he was a member, GAR-FIELD knew precisely how he could "help affectually." Besides, it is to be presumed that all this had been further explained by HUBBELL in the communication to which the above letter was an answer.

Now Gen. GARFIELD admits the genuineness of this letter. He does not dispute the svidence of his own handwriting, as he did that of Ames's Memorandum Book. He also admits that to have accepted or demanded the contributions of the Star route men would have been very disgraceful; and to have conceded their terms would have been rascally. He does not deny, nor does he produce HUBBELL to deny, that the conractors did actually come to his rescue on the strength of this document. They themselves say they saved his election; their money did the work in the October States. and their men, Gorham and Dorsey, applied it. But GARFIELD declares that he never thought of the contractors; those powerful knaves never entered his innocent head. But he had heard that BRADY had been making money on "telephone stocks," and he thought he ought to divide with the party. He does not explain how he and HUBBELL acquired the right to assess BRADY's honest telephone profits, any more than the dishonest gains of the contractors. If BRADY was buying immunity for himself alone, it made no difference which lund he drew upon, telephone or contract money; the result was the same. But if Gen. SARFIELD had understood that he was assessing the Republican speculators in telephone stock, he would have asked Hun-BELL to tell him how the "telephone companies generally are doing," instead of

how the departments generally are doing." On the whole, we fear our old friend is in another ugly scrape. Beside this "telephone" explanation, the "brief" in the DE GOLYER case becomes almost respectable, and the defence in the Credit Mobilier affair

The Commissioners Defend their Code. The replies made by Inspector-General R. 8. OLIVER, Brig.-Gen. MOLINEUX, and Col. CRUGER, three of the six State Militia Com-

missioners, to the objections raised against the new military code, comprehend all that san be said in its favor.

It has been urged that the Commissioners have exceeded their authority in the extent of the changes they propose; that they did not report at the time directed; that they altered the contemplated character of the Commission by putting on four staff officers, instead of three. But, as Col. CRUGER shows, the Commission was directed to "amend," which covers everything; and again, delays in a matter difficult to report on are familiar; while the addition of Judge-Advocate-General Horace Russell was in full accordance with the provision requirng that one of the three additional officers not specified in the act creating the Commistion should be a counsellor at law. The result of Judge Russell's presence is seen in the careful revision of the portions of the sode relating to courts and courts martial. And, as a whole, the new code is far more slear and concise than the old one, which is a medley of annual legislative acts, contain-

ing many repetitions. It has been said that the new code errs in treating the National Guard as a standing army. Gen. OLIVER's quick reply is: "Then the present law does also." But neither the objection nor the answer is sound. It is preposterous to say that men who devote perhaps ten days and twenty evenings in the year to soldiering are governed like the regular army. On the other hand, it is not frank to declare that the new code is no nearer the army system than the old. In several very important particulars, such, for a single example, as the proposition to have non-commissioned officers appointed, instead of being chosen by popular vote, the army system is directly adopted. All that needs to be said either of the objection or the answer is that a good change is still good, whether borrowed from the army, the

navy, or the Fire Department. The new code reduces the maximum of the National Guard from 29,000 to 15,000, and the maximum of companies to sixty-four privates. Neither of these changes is called for, and no argument of the Commissioners justifies them. Gen. MOLINEUX speaks of the educational advantages of smaller commands, but these are offset by the disadvan tages of cutting down companies now numbering more than eighty privates, and taking a just pride in their strength. Gen. Driven himself acknowledges that it would seem wise to increase the numerical number of companies, and proposes to make

tantry and ninety-three that of artillery. The absorption of the Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, Paymaster-General, and Chief of Ordnance into the General, and Chief of Ordnance into the latter official alone, who is to be styled the Dommissary-General is a change sound in voung, their numbers would be diminished; by destroying the papers at this time. If he expects to make a

theory, for staff consolidation is a modern quartermaster, commissary, and pay departments of the regular army would be National Guard of this State, for it has no artillery. The present Chief of Ordnance, Gen. WYLIE, gets decidedly the best of the new arrangement, in gathering to himself all the functions of the three staff officers whom the new code abolishes. However, the concentrated powers to be vested in him, especially as to purchase and control of material, seem to be partly covered by a bond of moderate amount, with sureties, which he is required to give. Practically, the whole matter is in his hands now; and there is likely to be an increase of expense under the new code, as all the abolished staff departments will reappear as bureaus under the new department. And, after all, Gen. WYLIE is himself utterly dependent on the approval of the Adjutant-General both for

purchase and issue. In the matter of rifle practice the new code is all wrong, and the Commission had better, for their own sakes and for the sake of a code containing many good features, back squarely out of their position, restoring every jot of the old system, department of rifle practice, inspectors of all grades, support of ranges, marksman's badges, and the whole apparatus. Messrs. Cornell and Townsend, who are innocent of any extraordinary proficiency in marksmanship, have probably misled the Commission into their present untenable position on this subject. The people of this State know what has given its National Guard a world-wide celebrity, and turned the reputation of volunteer militia as fuss-and-feathers popinjays into that of a body of skilled riflemen. The remarks of the Commissioners about the waste of sundry pounds of powder, the multiplication of reports, and the large executive authority of the rifle inspectors, under the existing system, are not convincing. We discover nothing whatever justifying the proposed rifle practice changes, while they would be ruinous to the practical work of our militia as armed men.

In the matter of the proposed service uniform, which is perhaps the chief bone of contention of the new code, the Commissioners are perfectly sound in theory. In talking of the abuses arising out of the State uniform appropriation, and its conversion to regimental funds, Gen. OLIVER whacks at the Seventh Regiment with a vigor which may earn him the ill will of that powerful organization. But the Commissioners are all wrong in practice. An ideal militia ought to wear a common service uniform. provided at State expense, in which distinctive corps marks could appear on the sleeves or in the facings and trimmings only. But the Commissioners are not dealing with an ideal militia, but with a body whose most vivacious members join it primarily for the purpose of personal display, and whose vanity is hurt by lessening the importance of the clothing department.

The three pamphlets, in short, which embody the speeches of Gens. OLIVER and MOLINEUX and Col. CRUGER, give valuable hints of what the militia ought to be, except in their retrograde steps regarding rifle practice, and in their unwise attempt to concentrate the control of military details in the Governor, who may and usually does know nothing about them. But those who object, even if not from the most exalted motives, better represent the average National Guardsman in the most flourishing part of the service. A disinterested view of the matter would perhaps be this: Let the militiamen deck themselves in all the different colors of the rainbow if they like, provided they continue to learn how to shoot. If the new code cannot sacrifice its experimental substitute for the present well-tried system of rifle practice, and if it cannot get rid of its tendency to concentration of power in the hands of the Governor, or of his Adjutant-General, it should of course be knocked in the head by the Legislature.

The Locust Pingue of the Far West.

So great have been the devastations of the Rocky Mountain locust in the States west of the Mississippi, that considerable appropriations have of late been made by Congress, with a view of arresting its ravages, or at least confining them within a limited area. A report now published by Messrs. RILEY, PACKARD, and THOMAS aims to suggest the best means of extirpating the locust in its permanent breeding grounds, and preventing its migrations into the more fertile portions of the trans-Mississippi country.

During 1879, the last year covered by this report, the locust seems to have been much less abundant and destructive than in 1877, so far as concerns its native home, viz., the Rocky Mountain plateau, comprising the Territories of Montana, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming, with the State of Colorado. Yet even in such relatively quiet seasons the locust is migratory, gathering into swarms. and travelling hundreds of miles from its hatching grounds. Among the more or less visionary schemes projected for their destruction, it has been proposed to burn over the areas in which the locusts breed while they are in the larva state. It is clear, however, that this plan, besides entailing great labor and expense, would encounter other practical difficulties of an insuperable character. Even if it were possible to burn over the whole region upon which the patches of egg deposits are scattered, presenting as it does a superficies of half a million square miles, there would be no certainty of exterminating the pest. There are few districts occupled by young locusts which the flames would traverse without leaving gaps and unburned patches, since in almost all the prairies or plains there are innumerable little barren "breaks" or depressions, and it is precisely on these spots that the eggs are laid. Thus in any event a very large portion of the eggs would escape, and under the most favorable conditions the result would prove by no means commensurate to the labor and money expended. Thus, in northwestern Iowa, where the utmost precautions were taken to give the plan of burning the prairies a fair trial, the undiminished hordes of young grasshoppers which afterward laid waste the wheat fields gave conclusive evidence of failure.

The scheme of extirpation by burning being abandoned as impracticable, the most careful students of the subject confess they now see no prospect of exterminating the pest by artificial means. The problem, therefore, is confined to a palliation of the mischief by lessening the numbers of the locusts, or arresting their incursions into the agricultural bolt which lies on the east of their permanent breeding grounds. In the opinion of Mr. Thomas, who seems to have made a prolonged and caroful study of the matter, the only feasible method of checking the ravages of the locust is to encourage sighty-four privates the maximum of in- an agricultural population to settle in the very home of the species, buch emi-grants, from necessity, would be forced to wage a constant warfare against them. By stirring the soil, their

and as irrigation would, in these regions, military tendency, and the union of the be indispensable, the effect of dry seasons on the crops would not be so sensibly felt as is the case at present. The possibility, equally practicable. The ordnance de-partment might as well be added in the extent, the egg deposits by a winter supextent, the egg deposits by a winter supply of water would tend to arrest propagation. The fact, too, that the breeding grounds of the locust are mainly situated in the limited agricultural areas is adduced as a further argument in favor of this remedy. It is true, however, that large sections would still be left where locusts would breed, and from which they would pour down on the nearest cultivated districts, such as the western counties of Colorado. Our trans-Mississippi States are not

> by any means the only countries which, both in historical and recent times, have suffered from locust devastations. LIVY states that in the year B. C. 75 the whole Pontine district was covered with clouds of locusts, and PLINY avers that the Roman people had recourse more than once to the Sibylline books to learn what remedies to employ against the swarms of grasshoppers which ruined the crops of Italy. Between the sixth and the ninth centuries immense hordes of locusts are said to have invaded Gaul, and in the reign of the Emperor Basil the harvests of Greece and Macedonia were so utterly consumed by grasshoppers that the inhabitants were forced to sell their children and emigrate into Thrace. In the fourteenth century great swarms of locusts entered Europe from the southeast, and committed such ravages that famine ensued in many countries. In the middle of the sixteenth century an immense multitude spread over a great part of Europe, and toward the end of the seventeenth century it would appear that they reached Wales. The great locust swarm of the next century (in 1747-50) did not cease its onward course until it had penetrated into England and Scotland, showing itself especially destructive in Norfolk, Cheshire, and Derbyshire. In Russia there are records of frightful locust visitations, occurring at short intervals from the beginning of the eleventh century up to our own day. NIEBUHB, during his travels in Egppt, saw a cloud of locusts which had been brought up by a south wind from the deserts of Lybia, and fell in Cairo; other travellers have noticed a like confirmation of the Scripture narrative. The three great inroads of these insects on the French possessions in Algiers, the last of which occurred in 1866, took place under the influence of the hot wind from the south known as the sirocco. In a word, all the grand divisions of the earth are more or less subject to injury from locusts; but the areas of their most destructive action are to be found in northern Africa, western Asia, southern Europe, and our trans-Mississippi States. It is a curious fact that if we note all the dates of the great general invasions of all the regions specified, the interim in each case is very nearly a multiple of eleven years. There is reason to believe, however, that this apparent periodicity is purely accidental, and would not hold good if tested by the more authentic and minute records kept in recent times.

The Legacies of Mr. Fields to Authors.

The late JAMES T. FIELDS of Boston left conditional legacies of \$5,000 each to Mr. WHITTIER and Miss LUCY LARCOM, the poets, and Mr. Howells and Mr. Aldrich, the novelists. The money is to go to these writers on the death of Mrs. FIELDS, providing she does not will otherwise.

The fortune left by Mr. FIELDS was made in the publishing business, and these authors, among others, wrote for him the books he printed and sold. But he could not have felt that he owed his business success to them especially. He would have died poor if he had never published any other volumes than those written by them. He had discharged fully and honorably all his pecuniary obligations to them, and of such profits as had been made out of their works they had received their fair share. He therefore have left them the as evidence of his personal friendship, and perhaps because he thought they would

Mr. Freeds knew better than most men that his literary fame is by no means the measure of an author's substantial gains. The critics may join in praising his work and very considerable numbers of people may take pride in their familiarity with his name and the title of his books, and yet he may make a bare living out of the volumes for which he receives so much honor. Unless he is pecuniarily independent of literary labor, or is satisfied with a very small and more or less precarious share of this world's goods, so long as he can teach and lead his fellows, he is apt in the end to regard fame as a fraud, and mere literary reputation as something not worth trying for. The late EPES SARGENT was not a very wise nor a very great man; but when he gave as the reason for his turning from pure literature to the writing of school books that pecuniary independence was better than contemporary fame, he probably expressed the honest feeling of most men of experience

who write for their daily bread. The old firm of Ticknon & Figures, to which Mr. James T. Fields belonged, published a long list of works by the most famous contemporary American and English authors, but probably not more than a quarter of them ever brought to either publishers or writers a handsome profit. In some cases men distinguished in literature could get nothing at all out of the sale of their books, and the firm were actual losers by them. In other cases the most profitable publications were by authors who never received the stamp of high literary approval. The people liked to read what they wrote, however, and regularly bought their

It is this difference between the critical requirements of the few and the actual literary taste of the many which makes the publication of miscellaneous books so hazardous a business. The critics may laud the work, but the great public will not buy it and read it, though they will perhaps speak respectfully of the author if they have ever heard of him. Mr. Howells is not one of these rejected authors, neither is Mr. ALDRICH; but they have so far failed to write anything which has aroused universal interest, which finds readers out of a very limited circle-a few thousands of men and women with tastes and sympathies apart from those of people in general.

Moreover, during the last few years novel readers have been able to get their full supply of fiction at prices so low that copy right stories must have a very restricted sale. For the cost of one of Mr. Howells's novels a man can buy a dozen reprints of the best English novels, or translations of the most dramatic French stories. Even in the days before these cheap publications, he could not expect a very wide audience; but now the number of his readers is still further reduced. Probably his income from the books for which he gets so much considera-

sure and fair living. To do that he must learn to know what the people really care to read. He must throw off his bondage to literary cliques, get rid of his literary vanity, and allow his work to be judged by its intrinsic worth, not by any previous reputa-

tion he may have got. We congratulate Miss LARCOM, Mr. WHIT-TIER, Mr. Howells, and Mr. Aldrich on the substantial tokens of his esteem they are likely to eventually receive out of the property of Mr. FIELDS; but they must join us in hoping that the day when they shall come into possession of the legacies will be far distant, for between now and then a death must occur.

The Health of New York and of Paris. It will be interesting to compare the present death rate of New York with that of Paris. In both cities the mortality has been high since the beginning of the year, though in neither has there been any epidemic during that time. No one disease has prevalled to an alarming extent. After a winter of unusual severity and an exceptionally heavy snow fall, however, the poorer class of people both in Paris and New York are ill prepared to contend with the ordinary ases which befall them.

The last complete report published by our Health Department is that for the week ending April 16, when the actual mortality was 758, and the death rate per one thousand inhabitants annually was 32.67. There were more deaths than in the corresponding week of 1880 by 136, though the mortality was little above the weekly average since the present year came in.

The death rate of Paris, according to the latest returns received, was 31.38, or slightly below that of New York for the week named, but rather above our average rate since Jan 1. We see, therefore, that the two cities

seem to be about equal with respect to health. The death rate of London and Ber-In, however, is now much lower than that of either. At last accounts it was only 21.6 for London and 23.1 for Berlin; yet even in these cities during particular weeks of the present year it has equalled or approached the average for New York.

But in the European cities the reported death rate is based on an estimated population, a regular percentage of increase since the last actual enumeration being allowed for; whereas in New York the census of a year ago is used for the calculation. The variations in the growth of our population are too great to admit of any estimated increase from year to year which could be relied upon as accurate; but London and Paris grow with a steadiness which enables their authorities to assume with confidence the exact number of inhabitants in them month by month. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of London in 1870, for instance, varied by only about four thousand, out of over three millions, from the figures obtained by the census.

If the rate of increase of New York has seen the same since last June as it was annually between 1875, when the State census was taken, and 1880, when the United States census made the enumeration, our present population is about 1,250,000, against 1,206,577, the total number of inhabitants found here year ago. It is probably more than thatat least 1,300,000-for the growth of the city during the year has been manifestly very great. If we allowed for our proper in crease, therefore, we should show a lower death rate than that of Paris, and compare not unfavorably as to proportionate mortality during the present unhealthy year with even London.

Paris has a healthy situation, and, so far as its municipal regulations go, is a model city. Its system of street cleaning commands our admiration, and is unquestionably both more costly and more perfect than that of most other great cities, European and American; while our own is just as indisputably very bad and very inefficient in many respects. Yet we find that Paris is no more healthy than New York. Its mortality is rather greater than ours.

New York's increased mortality, therefore, cannot reasonably be ascribed to unclean streets alone or mainly. regard as the cleanest city in the world is osing proportionately as many of its inhabitants by death as New York, a very

dirty one. The throng of planets that in April swarmed after the setting sun are already beginning to appear in the east just before daybreak. Mars has joined them, and his ruddy face may be seen peeping above the Long Island horizon at about 3 o'clock in the morning. He will hereafter be conspicuous in the planetary levee. The astrologers are now claiming that the dire effects of last month's great conjunction are yet to be experienced, and that these will begin in earnest in June. They have staked their reputation upon the success of their predictions for "the great year," as they call it, and so are anxious to prolong the time within which the promised horrors may happen. The fact that they blundered as to the time of the conjunction by several days is not calculated to add terror to their

threatenings.
Prof. Swift's new prize comet does not give much promise. It is likely to pass away without becoming visible to the naked eye. Still there is no counting upon the conduct of comets. More than one has suddenly blazed up from a speck of bazy light until it spanned half the sky. Much has been said about danger to the earth from comets. The only danger lies in the possibility of their plunging straight into the sun, instead of swinging around him on a parabolic curve. One or two great comets have barely grazed the sun. If one should strike him, astronomers say, the meteors following in its train would so intensify the sun's heat that the earth's surface would shrivel up like paper in the blast of a furnace. But the chances of such a thing happening are very slight.

The Clerks.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: "Practi-The Editor of the SUN-AS: Practial' make a most timely and important suggestion.
Such an organization of clerks as he proposes would not
only be beneficial in a money wax, but would also enocurace a spirit of manihuses and dimit; now extinct in
stabilishments controlled by overlearing and pure-proud
employers. The bank clerks have an organization with
satisfactory results, and a similar one with a larger
uphere would no doubt be productive of greater results.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SUL I think " Practical" nakes the right suggestion at the right time. If the pronakes the right suggestion as the right time. It he po-virement of business for the unemployed were system-tized, and the interests of clorks protected in other ways, there would not be so many advertisements for irraccious accommondated or the per week. I nearly irraccious accommondated or the per week. I nearly irraccious accommondated or the per week. I nearly will soon de-letop a nucleus.

An Apprentice's Complaint.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I was much amused by "J. Markman's " complaint that he To This Libiton of Anis Society A was much amused by "J. Markman's" complaint that he has to wait five or ten minutes for a book at the Astor Library, and then sets the wrong book. Did however try the Apprentices' Library! I don't think he ever did, or he would not complain. How would he like to wait half or three-quarters of an hour, and sometimes even an bour, for a book. I and, after waiting that length of time, how would he like to get a book he did not want, and be demed the privilege of channing it?

There is a notice in the library to the effect that any mattention on the part of the employees should be reprinted to the library to the leftening it was and sees the state of things.

Not over one-quarter of the members of the library are apprentices, the other three-quarters are women and boys under 10 years of age—telegraph and office boys, and so on. Now, the standard books drawn are drawn by the apprentices, the novels being mostly drawn by these women and boys. Yet, while every new novel published is added standard books are not added until they have locome stale, and have been read some where

they have become stale, and have been read sometime by the apprentices. Wagner Cheered. BERLIN. May 7.—At the Victoria Theatro last evening the performance of the "Walkyren," the second WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

The English Conservatives see no light through the darkness which has fallen upon them by reason of Lord Beaconsfield's death. They cry, "Who will now stand between us and the ghouls and goblins of national dishonor. national cowardice, conflacation, Atheism, and Radicalism—their one great demon father?" They now see and feel that their lost leader was he Conservative party, and that the party, if not dead as he, is very nearly so. This despair, owever, does not reach the small portion of the Conservatives known as the Tory party or 'true blues," as they delight to call themselves. Since the first Reform bill they have passed from sight, taking no part in the politics of the country, out of sheer disgnst with the manage-ment of affairs. To them Disraeli was as objecionable as Gladstone, if not more so, since they looked upon him as a wolf in sheep's clothing and distrusted him accordingly. His road to popularity, which, they say, consisted in "dishing the Whigs" by adopting their cast-off measures, was not trodden by them, and they viewed his falls from power with remarkable equanimity. They took the old Duke of Wellington as their model of a statesman. Since his death they have gradually sunk into oblivion, and are probably now so disorganized as to be practically defunct. It is admitted on all sides that the only use of the Conservative party under Lord Beaconsfield has been to check as much as was possible the advance of Radicalism. That they have not been extraordinarily successful even in this rôle is apparent from the act of such a measure as the Irish Land bill having been introduced in the House of Commons as a Government measure. Their want of success as a party is also forcibly exemplified by the Candahar and Transvaal disasters, which have befallen the country under Mr. Gladstone's management with no further result than that he still remains in power. It is even supposed that the opposition to what " Dizzy" once called Mr. Gladetone's "plundering and blundering" policy with regard to Ireland will be but feeble. Such being the case, the sooner the Conservative party either effaces itself or places at its head a thorough, old-time Tory, if such a man can be found, the better.

These are the sentiments agitating the English at present. Should they produce any effect they may land the country in a worse perplexity than it is in now. There is but little doubt that England's day has passed. With no army worth mentioning, she cannot even protect her colontal dependencies. Her natural ally, France, is alienated by reason of her desertion during the days of the German war. Powerless by land, and not very strong at sea, the British empire is like an overloaded ship in a storm and in unpleasant proximity to a rocky lee shore.

The Nineteenth Century contains an article by an Austrian staff officer which ably sets forth the troubles that are not improbably in store for Great Britain. England, he says, " may be obliged to make war if she is to preserve her existence," Indeed, although as Lord Beaconsfield remarked, not long ago, "There is no country so interested in the maintenance of peace as Great Britain," yet there is no country so liable to have to go to war. To show how ill prepared she is for a severe struggle with a foeman worthy of her steel, the Austrian asserts that her navy, though the strongest in the world, is relatively weak, considering the expanse of seacoast it has to guard. A large fleet must be kept to guard the road to India, by way of the Mediterranean. In the Atlantic the full power of the United States might have to be dealt with, though had the Austrian taken into consideration what our na-val power amounts to be would not have tried to frighten the Englishmen with that bogey. In the Pacific, he says, England is weakest of all. and the introduction of steam, ironciads, and torpedoes has taken away her power "as queen and mistress of the sea." Turning to the British army, Capt. Kirchhammer discusses the possibility of the landing of 50,000 Germans within three days' march of London, "fourteen days after a declaration of war." To meet this force, Capt. Kirchhammer calculates that only 47,787 soldiers could be put in the field. The Captain dismisses the 300,000 militiamen and colunteers with the contemptuous remark that their organization and equipment make them unfit for real warfare. But it would be as well. perhaps, for any intending invader of England not to put too much faith in this opinion and hese calculations.

From reports published in Land some idea of the depreciation of arable land in England may be gained. The reports include sixteen counties, and contain trustworthy information about one-half of the agricultural area of the kingdom. Good land in Lincolnshire, which is now going begging at from three to five. The eastern and midland counties are still worse off. They are in the condition of our grasshopper ands out West, which any one may have if he will pay the taxes. In Leicesterabire things ere not quite so bad, but still the land only brings in one-half of what it returned five years ago. On the edge of Salisbury Plain there is a large estate, which is descried by the tenants, and the land is now covered with weeds, In the neighborhood landlords are glad to let their farms on a lease for a term of years, getting no rent at all for the first year, and there after accepting a reduction of fifty per cent. from what they used to receive. It will take a oad off the conscience of the American farmer o learn, on the authority of the journal which makes public this report, that American competition is not so largely responsible for this sad state of things as is the succession of we

seasons which have visited the country.

The seal fishers have had an unusually successful season this year, and Dundee is reolding over the return of its sons from the fcy forth. The chase of the scal is unattended by the dangers which surround the whaler, but nevertheless it is an exciting sport. The fishermen first find the holes through which the seals crawl on to the ice to sun themselves. One of the hunters then dresses himself up to look as much like the intended victims as he can, and the rest of the party ambush themselves as near him as possible. When the seals make their appearance, the decoy lies down on the ice and commences to flop about, imitating their motions. This attracts the attention of the unsuspicious phocee, and they draw nearer and nearer to see what has happened to their relation. When they have been decoyed far enough from their hole, the ambushed men get between them and the point of escape, and few of the seals survive to tell the tale to their brethren. The value of sealskin does not diminish. although the skin of the rabbit has of late been brought into requisition and dyed to imitate the roal article. But the deception is easily detected, and the Scotch wives can still, paraphrasing the old royalist song," hurran for the scaleking

of bonny Dundee." One of the Zulu Princesses who recently pala visit to England under the auspices of the Westminster Aquarium has been initiated into some of the amenities of civilization, which she would have avoided had she not partaken of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. As was the case with our first mother, she discovered that she was naked, or nearly so, and returned home provided with a fashionable costume, having all the latest improvements, including a pocket placed as far back as possible. In this receptacleshe deposited her worldly wealth, amounting to between five and six dollars, and, in order to astonish her dusky countrywomen, she took a stroll down the Fifth avenue of her father's metropolis. Prompted by curiosity a lightfingered native explored the recesses of that pocket and abstracted the wealth. Then was seen the unusual spectacle of a fashionably attired woman lifting her skirts in order to give free play to her limbs. which would otherwise have been impeded by the "pull back," and pursuing a totally naked man, thus reversing the order of the going of Atalanta. The Princess, however, was no less fleet-footed than that famous female pedestrian of antiquity, caught her despoiler and delivered him over to the hands of justice, from which it is to be hoped he will escape scot free in view of the temptation placed in his path. Yet the incident clearly demonstrates the

progress of civilization in Zululand. Ten dollars is not a large capital on which to

start on a seven years' voyage of discovery into he heart of Africa, but that is the sum which Dr. Holub, an Austrian physician, possessed when he arrived at Port Elizabeth on the southern shores of that continent. This small sum was further reduced on landing to two dollars. by reason of the extortion of the British Custom House authorities, who seem to be adroit at fleecing "the stranger that is within their gates" as our own. The doctor was, however, possessed of a good medical education and some letters of introduction, so that he soon procured patients enough to replenish his purse, and was thus enabled to continue his journey. His road ran through the country of the Boers, which he describes as abounding in game of all kinds. The antelope is especially plentiful, and affords capital sport to the Boers, whose accuracy of aim with the rifle has lately so astonlahed the British army. When the diamond fields were reached, August had set in-the depth of winter in South Africa. The vegetation was dead, and thick clouds of fine dust proved much more trying than the thickest snow would have been. Here the doctor pitched his tent, a structure seven feet high, ten long, and eleven wide. In response to the unfurling of his shingle to the breeze, the miners flocked to expend their hard-earned wealth in purchasing catarrh cures and cough medicines to alleviate the ravages wrought in their mucous membranes by the irritating dust. The summer is diversified by rains which lay the dust, but the quantity of water is so large that the natives prefer the dust. In this paradise for doctors the traveller soon made enough money to earry him through the rest of his journey, which extended to the lake region where Dr. Livingstone's life was ended. According to Dr. Holub's account, changes have come over the manners and customs of the natives since the

Livingstone era which would have gladdened

the heart of that pioneer of civilization, could

he have survived to witness them. King

Khame, the ruler of the eastern Bamaugwates,

has put a stop to the sale of ardent spirits

within his dominions, and has suppressed the

fetish worship and its atrocities. Dr. Holub

favors the extension of British rule over the

whole of South Africa, on account of the im-

pulse it would give to the cause of humanity.

The spirit of officiousness which guides our own Park Commissioners in excluding from the Park any one who wears or carries any floral decoration is emulated by the guardians of the South Kensington Museum in London, who refuse admittance to all who will not give up their sticks, umbrellas, and parasols at the door. As no fee is charged for taking care of the obnoxious article, no great hardship is in-flicted on its possessor, unless he wishes to quit the building by some other door than that at which he entered. Then he may have to walk nearly a quarter of a mile and suffer an annoying loss of time. But it is carrying the rule to an extreme when they refuse admission to a lame man-as has recently occurred-who could not move a step without the aid of a stick. The reason for the strictness of this rule is that, although sticks were debarred at the National Gallery yet they were accustomed to admit persons who could not get about without crutches. One of these cripples has the distinction of being the only person who has done wilful damage to the national collection of pictures. He took offence at the nudity of a very valuable "old master"

and drove his crutch through the canvas. Since the decline of the art of self-defence in England, it has been replaced by more deadly, if not more brutal, methods of settling little difficulties. Each section of the country has its special method of fighting. In the west of England, where the love of wrestling still prevails, a good deal of the old chivalrous feeling, which scorns to strike a man when he is down, is still to be found. In the north, especially among the mill operatives, such fas-tidiousness is not fashionable, and if in a rough and tumble fight a combatant is unjucky enough to lose his feet, he has small chance of getting up again without being seriously damaged by the heavily-soled, iron-tipped boots of his opponent. A case of this kind has recently occurred in Lancashire, where perhaps the most brutal of all the brutes in creation are found. Two young fellows were ill-treating a woman. A young man, a stranger to the customs of the natives, interfered. He was overpowered, knocked down, and kicked to death his head being the special object of attack. The forst feature of the case is that a crowd of men who were present took no steps to prevent the cowardly murder. Such is English manliness in the nineteenth century! Russian music has suffered a severe loss in

the death of Nicolas Rubinstein, a brother of the famous pianist and composer, Anton Rubinstein, whose "Tower of Babel" was pro duced so successfully at last week's festival. Though less famous than Anton, it is doubtful whether Nicolas was inferior to his brother as s musician. His temperament was different, however, and Anton, being five years his senior, received more musicial advantages than his brother, who was destined for a diplomatic life, and for some time did service in the Bureau of the Governor-General of Moscow. He did not neglect the piane, however, and in 1858 played before the Russian Musical Society. In the following year ne was appointed Director of the Moscow Musical So ciety, to whose service he devoted the most unremitting attention, succeeding in training the prehestra to a very high ritch of perfection. In 1866 the Russian Conservatoire was founded. and Nicolas Rubinstein was made director of it. His great talents and pleasant manners endeared him to all. He was one of the most popular men in Moscow. His audiences went wild with enthusiasm, and at one of his concerts a woman committed suicide from excess of emotion. While Anton was winning laurels throughout Europe Nicholas was content to stay at home. Twice, however, he visited Paris, where he was received with as much favor as his brother. It is said that Liszt acknowledged that both Anton and Nicolas were his auperiors. on the piano in the rendition of certain styles of music. Nicolas had been for some time in failing health, but it was thought that his disease had been conquered, and he resumed his duties at Moscow with his accustomed energy. His strength again broke down. The doctors sent him to Nice, but he died on reaching Paris. His brother was telegraphed for from Madrid, where he was fulfilling an engagement, but he arrived too late to see him alive. The funeral was attended by all the musical celebrities in Paris, and a battalton of troops was present to do the last honors to one of the Legion of Honor, of which order he was an officer. His remains were transferred to Moscow, where there was a pub-

Clumsy Newspapers. From the Hoboke Paper World.

The paim for large sheet newspapers should e borne off by the publishers of the Sanhenrille Herald which is by far the largest single sheet newspaper tha omes to our editorial table. It is a handsomely printed this sheet, three feet by four feet eight inches in size each of its four pages containing twelve columns. Its im

can't of its four pages containing twelve columns. Its immereity puzzles us twice in one breath, the first conundrum being as to how long the arms of the main are who makes up the torns, and the second as to hiw its subscribers manage to read it. Golish of tath might possibly have performed the first operation asiety, but the second as a set without any satisfactory solution to our impuring mind. Our plan would be to mail it up on the side of a large barn, and read it from the risers of a storing from a pair of movable satists. A boyele might possibly answer the purpose.

A boom for large-sheet newspapers, or a great number of sheets at one issue, may perhaps sake during the dates of our present generation, but it us hope that the time is not far diviant when we shall have more of our now a species of the divined essence of darly and weekly purrantian, and institute and lead to the divined essence of darly and weekly purrantian, and institute and est better the present generation. The Story is extent and lead of the divined essence of darly and weekly purrantian, and institute and est better of the divined essence of darly and weekly purrantian, and institute and est better of the present lastion. The Story, the Section Results of the day is a story of the day of the day is an excellent one to paper insunatations and institute of the day is an excellent one to paper insunatations and one of the day is an excellent one top paper manufacturers and washippaper gatherers, but whether any one else is blessed or benefited by the loot by loot sheets is an open question.

From the New Harm Pallatium An eagle measuring thirteen feet from tip to up was killed in Poquetanioc after a severe hand to claw right with the bunder. Around the eagle's neck was a gold collar marked 'S. T. S."

Weak lungs are strengthened, picurisy pains relieved, and asthmatic symptoms subjured by Dr. Jayne's Ex-pectorant a sovereign remedy for all coughs and colds.— 446.

BUNDEAMA

-Confidence in official ecclesiastical figures is weakened by the statement of a Brooklyn Doctor of Divinity that on the roll of his church are the names of sixty dead persons, many of whom were laid in wood as long ago as three years. That church roll needs thorough revision.

-A remarkable indication of progress in outh Carolina is the fact that a colored man named Thaddeus Salters has been ordained a deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church and made assistant to a Protestant Episcophi University and the Action of a colored church. It is supposed that Mr. Saiters will have much of the actual work to do among his brethren or the dusky skin, while the white rector can put on his dignity and perform the unday ministrations in the church

-In the Congregational church of Dorset. Vt., the people are so little given to change that they en-joy the services of the chorister who has led the music for thirty years. Good old Pastor Pratt has occupied the pulpit for a quarter of a country. One deacon has been in office for forty years and another one for twenty. The superintendent has been in charge of the Sunday school for sixteen years, and the Sunday school teachers an mostly old hands, one of them having been diligently sugaged in teaching for fifty-two years. Such cases of sociesiastical longevity are exceedingly rare.

-The parish of Faldingworth-Cum-Burlingthorpe, near Markot Rasen, England, is reported by the Church Times as having been greatly "roused upin the last two years by the priest in charge. The Easter decorations in this parish were remarkable for their wealth of flowers and moss, and were bestowed by the rich parishioners. With its "f lirly good "choir of men and boys, its new ismps and a harmonium, and the wholesome influences of newly cleaned floors, ireship painted walls and woodwork and an improved Nunlay school library, there is hope for the parish of Falcing-worth-Cum-Burlingthor; e, near Market Rasen, England.

-Prof. Robertson Smith, whose Glasgow and Edinburgh lectures have caused great excitement among the orthodox people of Scotland, says that the Mosaic legislation of the Pentateuch in its fluid form did not become the acknowledged law of the land usui the time of Erra, and that the Levitical legislation was un-known before the exile. He furthermore says hat the Old Testament canon was not complete at the time of Jesus Christ. These statements, while they have caused great astonishment in coming from the source they do, have alienated some of Prof. Smith's warmest friends, who stood bravely by him during all his scclesiastical troubles and trials.

-It is now said, with some show of good authority, that the reason King Miesa of Uganda inraed Mohammedan was his desire to conquer the people of Usega, who live near that part of Lake Nyanza where the Nile flows out over Ripon Falls. The Arabs out him up to engaging in war with these people. Heing favorably disposed toward them, the august monarch embraced their religiouss a matter of policy. The various sects to whose religious Mess has in turn given tem-porary adherence from time to time are greatly dis-gusted with him, and have learned, from their experience with him, not to trumpet too loudly the conversion of heathen notentates until after having taken their Majesties for a while on probation.

-The army of church candidates for pasoral office will be recruited by nine less than might have been expected, this number of young men at Yale Theo ogical Seminary having formed a "Dakota Band." The members of this band are pledged to go West, with a riew to evangelizing the Indians and other impentent persons who may come under their influence in Dakota. They will complete their course at the seminary, and then offer their services to the American Home Mission-ary Society. There are a great many fields of usefulness of this kind which might be filled to advantage by young inisters. The only trouble is that the young ministers think they hear the voice of the Lord calling them to service as pastors of respectable churches, with good salaries. In the missionary fields of the far West the salaries are scant and the work hard.

-Another lively meeting has been held in the famous and quarrelsome St. James's Church, Hatcham. This meeting was for the purpose of electing wardens. The Protestant party, including many Dissenters, came in full force, and having obtained prame sion of the vestry, where the meeting was to be held, en-deavored to keep out all of the other side. The Chair-man ordered the door to be unbolted, whereupon a noisy mob entered. The first general snari was about the adoption of the minutes. This being disposed of, the meeting got into a wrangle over the disposition of money collected in the church, and as to who should have a right to handle the money. An effort was then made to censure the vicar and his curate for preaching laise doc-trines. This failed, because the Chairman relused to put the motion. The meeting did not exactly break up in a free fight, but the brethren were in that frame of mind in which ebullition of angry spirits almost induces personal encounter. No church in England has suffered as much from the effects of ritualist controversies and practices as this unfortunate and unhappy St. James's, Hatcham.

-The Sunday school people of Brooklyn are making preparations for their annual marching day, which falls this year on Wednesday, the 25th of this month. Although a few other cities and suburbs induige in this annual festivity. Brooklyn still takes the lead oth in the numbers of parading children and in the public attention which is given to the demonstration. It is estimated that about 50,000 children will be on parade. The parade is cut into a number of sections, so that none of the young people will have to march too far Asig former years, a prominent feature is the singing of certain hymns furnished by the Brooklyn Sunday School Union for the occasion. All the schools which units in the parade are expected also to units in the singing of the hymns. The specialty of the hymns and the tunes to order by home artists in hymnology and music. In several previous years this method of manufacture has resulted in the production of exceedingly commonplied material. This year's crop of hymns and music is even more noteworthy in this respect than the issues of previous anniversary occasions. In fact, the only merit t the collection, as a whole, is that it is "home made." In several of the churches and Sunday schools where the leading people are judges of what constitutes good hymns and music, much impatience is felt on the subect, and there are some of the large and influential schools which say that they do not care to spend their time and effort in practising such a weak let of staff. It is to be hoped that the present spirit of critersm will lead the providers of next year's anniversary miss either to manufacture better hymns or else to fall back on some of the old hymns which were song by mople of

ormer generations. -In his communication to the Presbytery of Ebenezer the Rev. F. D. Moore, whose asspension from the ministry has already been recorded, draws a defined line between the Bible and the Confession of Faith. His controversy is not with the Bible, for he avows himself thorough believer in that. But he claims the liberty of expounding and understanding the Bible for himself it stead of being compelled to accept its light through the medium of what his brethren have adopted as the standards of their faith. The controversy is between him and those who were his fellow presbyters on the right of pri-vate judgment. They claim that the First Day of the Week must be spent either in rest or in devotional ext cises, or in both. He regards it a day on which resums take the shape of pleasure, even if that pleasure he in the direction of what is commonly known as a Sunday excursion. It is a notew-rithy fact that among the Preexterior ministers of this part of the country much milt years ago most ministers would not on Sunday of feeters a ferryboat or enter a horse car. Now it is no number thing for eminent clergymen of the leading personners to preach in the evening at churches a considerable disance from those in which they officiated in the morning They have no scruples about making the juries to rill or boat, or any conveyance which may be buildy. Clorgymen and their families have not yet made as a eral practice of patronizing Sanday excursion boats and trains. Yet if a case of discipline were to arbs in reard to such Sunday excursions, it would present many diffi-culties on account of the many distinguished present who have used Sunday conveyances as ally a howing their appointments. In the pursuit of their day re-lishings of the Protestant Episcopal Church are with necessarily compelled to journey by rail or boat in San-days, and no objection is used to it. who have used Sunday conveyances as ably to

-"The Prodigal Son" is the subject of today's Sunday school lessen, the passage for such being fackers, 11-28. It is such a bender story of a sink to and a father's love that it has been deemed worth of the highest art of the painter and the forest facts of the poet. It pictures in the most graphic manner what it taking place in thousands of families. In its described of proffigacy and pentience it appeals to the samuely of every human being, for there is hardly a tame? Christendom that has not had trouble with a new wall ward member. The product here included by Curoffrstahowed his wayward case in druke of narrows. straint. He wanted his own way, and longed to what he called liberty. He worried his lather for a li-the estate. Hather than softer the illand a land rel, the yielding old man granted his demancame liberty as the young man understood it living soon disposed of his said remay. As the destive young persons have disc, this youth as many with the profugate and the unclean, until that he find such as low as the worst of that they had neither means not desire to help him. Belief to the lowest point of wienchedness, the product beside to think what a feel he has been. Beduced in the conof the swine, he concludes to try the risk of returning his father's home. The worst that can happen is the father will turn man ewey. But he had not deserved. Instead of according at his case, ness or scoiding him for his a heat course, I' a feast for him and receives him in love. The store of the prodigal was not to 1 by Christ in order to set a provide on prodigality, or to show the results of an as leaves desirable. It was to show the infinite pity Pather to reaching down from on high to save us med guilty and abandoned. Too lesson braches toot mer are none who have wandered so far away that uses love and mercy cannot bring them back.